

Rams Dominate the Eagles in Strasburg

September 24, 2011 by [Michael Dowling \(Edit\)](#)

The Clarke County Eagles were on the road again this week facing the undefeated Strasburg Rams. In a roller coaster ride of missteps the Eagles were trounced 50-21. The Ram's offense dominated the game with over 300 yards rushing but in spite of the lopsided score, it was a game of individual quarters that had drastically different performances ranging from epic breakdowns to stubborn defensive stands. However, when taken in whole the game was a serious setback for the Eagles.

The first quarter was a close game. Both teams traded turn-overs to gain good field position for scores. The Eagles fumbled a kick off handing the Rams a short field series for the first score of the game and the Rams fumbled a punt returning the favor to the Eagles who punched in their first points of the game with 2:47 left in the first quarter. However, as the 1st quarter wound down the prelude to the second quarter began to unfurl as the Strasburg ground game opened up.

Lead by #33 Todd Dean and #9 Rakwon White, the Strasburg offense proceeded to terrorize the Clarke defense. Less than 2 minutes into the second quarter the Rams capped off a 66 yard drive with a one yard run pushing the lead 14-7.

The Rams then attempted an onside kick which failed and left the Eagles with excellent field position. The offense proceeded to drive the ball to the Strasburg 25 yard line but failed to convert and handed the ball over on downs.

The Rams didn't need much time to go to work. On second down in their next series #9 Rakwon White tore down the sideline on a 40 yard run. #33 Todd Dean finished the three play scoring drive with a 27 yard run for the score pushing the lead to 21-7.

The Strasburg kickoff squibbed down to the 4 yard line and left the Eagles struggling in their own territory ultimately punting the ball away.

The Rams only needed two downs in their next series to score as Strasburg QB Hunter Funk connected with Troy Gordon who ran it in for the score.

At 28-7 the wheels fell off.

As the Eagles tried to mount a final drive in the half, with 27 seconds left, #4 Drew Paice threw an interception that the Rams ran in for a touchdown adding 7 more points to go to 35-7. With 12 seconds left Clarke bobbled Strasburg's kickoff in the end zone and ended up handing the Rams a safety to close out a painful first half 37-7.

But the second half opened with a different Clarke team. The Eagles shutdown the Ram offense and marched down the field on their own 3 play scoring series capped off by a terrific pass to Davey Hardesty. Alex Sefton threw a perfect block to seal the corner and the Eagles put the first points on the board in the second half. Shendow missed the PAT and the score was 37-13.

Defense stepped up as well. On first and ten on their own 12 yard line Strasburg coughed up the ball handing it the Clarke on the 15 yard line. Two minute later #3 Jesse Soot ran it in from the 1 yard line and all of the sudden it was a game again at 37-21. A defensive battle ensued for the remainder of the 3rd quarter as both teams traded series and failed to add any more points to the board.


As the clock ticked into the 4th quarter, the glimmer of hope the Eagles nursed through the previous quarter was snuffed out as the Rams drove 96 yards to score again making it 43-21. Both defenses held to cap the score until late in the game when the Rams with an insurmountable lead, took poor sportsmanship to a new low.



Jesse Smoot charges for the end zone - Photo Mike Dowling

With 1:28 left in the game, rather than having the QB take a knee and run out the clock, Strasburg's coaching staff decided to drive for a final score sealing the game at 50-21.

The Eagles drop their first Bull Run District game of the year and go to 3-2 overall. The Eagles have a bye next week and will take on Madison away on October 7th.

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